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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 11:04am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

TO Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly
FROM Susan Cowling
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It is my understanding that you will soon prepare a final opinion on the Proposed Final Judgment completed by the Department of Justice regarding the Microsoft case.

I am a Microsoft shareholder. As such, it would probably be to my best personal financial advantage to support the arguments presented by Microsoft and the recommendations of the Justice Department in the Proposed Final Judgment.

However, it seems to me that the well-being of our economy and, specifically, the technology sector in this country, is best served by open and fair practices. The unanimous decision by the US Court of Appeals that Microsoft had violated antitrust laws suggests to me that Microsoft has acted in the best interest of Microsoft to the denial of the best interests of our nation and the long term interest of its industry.

Admittedly, I am not privy to all the arguments, facts, and conditions on which any of the court decisions have been based. I do conclude that Microsoft has in the past broken antitrust laws. I feel Microsoft should be penalized strongly for these actions. To do otherwise is to undermine the antitrust laws, to encourage illegal behavior and to condone anticompetitive behavior.

Thank you for your consideration of my opposition to the Proposed Final Judgment as prepared by the Justice Department.